CA5 for EE5110/EE6110 Selected Topics on Automation and Control

Background

Manual warehouse stock counting used to be a tiring, boring and sometimes dangerous job. A small-size unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) equipped with sensors and smart software algorithms can be a very good solution to automate such a process.



Figure 1: Autonomous warehouse stock counting by UAV

Work Requirements:

Write a report to survey existing state-of-the-art hardware products and software methods and propose your own UAV system that an be used for such an autonomous stock counting task by considering the following mission requirements:

- Maximum take-off weight of the UAV: Less than 3 kg
- Autonomously fly and conduct stock counting for both left and right sides racks of a
 warehouse aisle with the following specifications and the mission must be finished
 within one take-off flight without battery change:

Aisle length: 80 mAisle width: 2.5 m

- o Aisle height: 8 m (5 layers of cargos with equally distributed layer heights)
- Cargo information is encoded within a barcode facing the aisle

You should mainly focus on the following 3 topics for the considerations of the system design:

- 1. Platform choice and component selection
- 2. Autonomous flight control
- 3. GPS-less navigation

Report Format:

- Size: A4 portrait

- Font: Times New Roman 11.5

- Not more than 20 pages

- Name your report as A1234567.pdf (where A1234567 is your matric number)

Submission:

Upload to Canvas under Segment D submission folder before 15 November 2021, 12 noon.

*Note that plagiarism and copying are serious offences and students caught doing so will be reported to university. Late reports will also be penalized (10% per day).